

the mid-atlantic archivist

Volume 7 Number 3

July 1978

RESPONSIBILITIES AND PRIORITIES

The Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference is suffering growing pains. It has to do with where the members live, where they work, and what they want to talk about. It's a question of priorities and substance, of programs and constitutions, of professionalism and basics. The problems have been brewing for some time. Time commercials aside, 1978 looks like a year of change for MARAC.

Subject: Professional responsibilities.

Item: During the fall business meeting at Oglebay Park a member asked the Chairperson to write a letter to several members of Congress over an archival matter -- personal papers. The vote: passed with no discussion and many abstentions. Several members of the group noted the "apathetic attitude" of the general membership on this question.

Item: maa wants to start a column (hopefully it will appear in the October issue) about professional issues in the states -- pending legislation, new positions, budgets, and appropriations. But one of the problems with the new column is that no material has surfaced.

Subject: Why MARAC Exists.

Item: Programming and the matter of meeting sites. At the spring business meeting in Fredericksburg two members wrestled over whether more meetings should be planned for Pennsylvania (97 members) and New York (84 members) as a matter of regional convenience. We started MARAC to provide meetings at convenient, low cost sites and to provide basic subject training for archives technicians and neophytes whose institutions provide little or no training funds. MARAC's geography provides sites within half a day's driving distance of most of the region. These concepts continue to be valid. SAA room rates for the last few years have averaged \$40 per night contrasted to MARAC's \$20 a night. "But," the critics ask, "what if you're an archivist in Buffalo, New York, and the MARAC meeting is in Newport News, Virginia? . . . What if you're an archives technician and the entire program that year is devoted to the ethics of opening the Nixon tapes?"

Subject: How to Measure MARAC

Item: A Comparison. maa has always espoused MARAC's merits: we have more members than any other regional. We have better representation at meetings than any other regional. Our region includes Washington. Thus, we are in the thick of things. We checked our figures against two other regional organizations and against the SAA. Our boasts are somewhat inaccurate. For example, the Society of Southwest Archivists (SSA), with 250 members, encompasses the states of Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma. Though dominated by the large Texas contingent, and generally meeting in Texas, SSA attracts 40% of its members to each meeting. The Midwest Archives Conference (MAC), includes Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin, has about 400 members, draws a 40%-50% attendance. The Society of American Archivists (SAA), with at last count 1700 members, has had attendance of 35% to 50%. The comparison to MARAC is striking. Though we have more members than MAC or SSA (at last count Martha Sloten quoted 430), our attendance at meetings - ranging from 35% to 50% is no better.

Item: Current Activities. It is apparent we need to measure MARAC's worth in other ways; a task only our members can accomplish. How much "clout" do we have? Do we lobby anywhere? Do we influence any legislation through letter writing campaigns or appearances before legislative committees? Do we seek or can we attract "expert" speakers? How does our publications award stack up against the other regionals? Do we make or should we make any other incentive awards like scholarships? Do our members make policy or follow it? In short, what has MARAC done for the archives profession lately?

Subject: Resolution.

These questions and more must be resolved by the membership. To do this we need to know about ourselves, about MARAC, and about the profession. We can do this in three stages. First this issue of maa includes a questionnaire to determine who we are and what we want. We need the largest response possible. Next, Pat Vanorny has put aside an enormous amount of time on the Baltimore program for "rap sessions" to follow up the questionnaire with in-depth discussions. Finally, the Chairperson will ask the Steering Committee to establish an ad hoc group to explore some of the options and directions that have been expressed by the membership.

Remember, MARAC is what you want it to be. Your response to the questionnaire is the crucial first step. Please take the time to complete it and return it.

Donald F. Harrison

Barbara Hearn

The mid-atlantic-archivist is an occasional publication of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC). MARAC membership includes all interested individuals who live and work in the seven states of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia. MARAC seeks to promote the professional welfare of its members, cooperates with and exchanges information among individuals interested in the preservation and use of archival research and methodology, provides a forum for matters of common concern, is a clearinghouse for and an active participant in joint ventures and cooperative projects, and cooperates with other organizations having similar objectives. Individual membership dues are \$3.00 per annum. Membership is not open to institutions, but institutions may purchase subscriptions to the mid-atlantic archivist for \$3.00 per annum. Write: Martha C. Slotten, MARAC Secretary, Library, Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania 17013. Items submitted for maa should be single-spaced, no indentation, in columns 4 1/2" wide, written on pica type, double-spaced between paragraphs. Send to: Donald F. Harrison, maa Editor, National Archives (NRR), Washington, D.C. 20408.



Editorial Staff:

Don Harrison, Editor
Bruce Ambacher, Associate Editor
Mary Boccaccio
Mary Elizabeth Ruwell

STEERING COMMITTEE

Chairwoman ('77-'79)

Barbara Hearn
Winterthur Museum

Secretary ('77-'79)

Martha Slotten
Dickinson College

Treasurer ('77-'79)

Peter Parker
Historical Society of Pa.

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Del.: Elizabeth Moyne Regional Economic History Center	D.C.: Alan Bain Smithsonian
Md.: Adele Newburger BRISC	N.J.: Don Skemer N.J. Historical Society
N.Y.: Rev. Lawrence McDonnell The Paulist Fathers	Pa.: Frank Zabrosky U. of Pittsburgh
Va.: Helen Troy U. of Virginia	W.Va.: Ellen Hassig State Department of Archives and History

At-Large Representatives ('77-'79)

Clark Beck Rutgers U.	Sister Agnes Elliott Marymount Manhattan College
Larry Hackman NHPRC	Frances Seeber FDR Library
	James Sweeney Old Dominion U.

MARAC Archives

Mary Boccaccio
U. of Maryland

FROM THE SECRETARY'S FILES

by Martha Slotten

The MARAC Directory gives little idea of the institutions we all represent so we thought you might be interested in seeing a breakdown of the kinds of institutions and agencies where MARAC members are serving. The refinement of my statistics doesn't bear close scrutiny especially since my totals don't quite jibe. I've tried to list institutions under the category where they fit most generally. The large number of people for whom we have no institutions listed includes those who neglected to list one as well as those who are not associated with an agency or institution. A breakdown of these two kinds of members is not possible but I can furnish upon request a breakdown by state of the other 18 categories.

It's not surprising that NARS employees, 50 in number, represent the agency with the most MARAC members. There are ten religious denominations whose institutions are represented by MARAC members, with Roman Catholics heading the list. Virginia has the most MARAC members in colleges and universities with twelve members at Mr. Jefferson's college in Charlottesville.

How about some informative articles for maa about those institutions categorized under "miscellaneous"? I'd like to learn more about the Broadcast Pioneers, the Leo Baeck Institute, the Philadelphia Contributorship (yes, Carol, I know I should know about your archives!) and even Russell Gaser's archival operation at the United Nations. Let's also have news notes from some of

our newer members who come from institutions new to us such as the American College of Nurse Midwives, the Sun Company, or Brooklyn Rediscovery. There are too many archival lights hidden under bushels in this organization!

Numbers of MARAC members in categories of agencies or institutions where they serve:

- | | |
|---|----|
| 1. Federal archival agencies | 73 |
| 2. State archives | 22 |
| 3. State Historical Societies | 14 |
| 4. State Colleges & Universities | 51 |
| 5. Private Colleges & Univ. | 54 |
| 6. Municipal archives | 4 |
| 7. Medical archives | 11 |
| 8. Religious archives | 40 |
| 9. Military archives | 8 |
| 10. Ethnic archives | 10 |
| 11. County & local hist. societies | 19 |
| 12. State libraries | 3 |
| 13. County, municipal & other libraries | 11 |
| 14. Scientific archives | 13 |
| 15. Industrial archives | 4 |
| 16. Banking & insurance archives | 5 |
| 17. Museum archives | 3 |
| 18. Miscellaneous institutions | 26 |
| 19. Members listing no institutions | 52 |

MARAC STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES
APRIL 28, 1978

Present: Chairwoman Hearn, Boccaccio, Vanorny, Lerner, Sternfeld, Morris, S., Parker, Harrison, Moyne, Beck, C., Seeber, Silverman, Slotten, Paul, Troy, Bauman, Newburger, Ambacher.

After receiving the treasurer's report and reviewing the agenda for the membership meeting to be held at 5:00 p.m., the Steering Committee voted to recommend the following to the membership:

Steering Committee unanimously agreed that special committee meetings shall be open hereafter to all members.

That allocation of funds established in March 1976 to reimburse committee members for travel expenses be a regular budget item.

Mary Boccaccio reported on the publication of Paper and Leather Conservation: A Manual, consisting of Paul Mucci's articles formerly published in the mid-atlantic archivist. 1500 copies of the 50-55 page-long manual will be published for about \$500.

The questionnaire to be published in the next newsletter had been mailed by Bruce Ambacher to committee members for suggestion prior to the meeting. A discussion of possible future sites for meetings closed the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Slotten
Secretary

MARAC BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 28, 1978

Barbara Hearn presided. The minutes of the fall meeting at Wheeling were approved as published in the mid-atlantic archivist. A motion for the ratification of the constitution, proposed at the previous meeting and circulated to all members, carried unanimously.

Ms. Hearn announced that Steering Committee meetings were open to all members.

The secretary reported that current MARAC membership is 400 individuals and 14 institutions. A directory was recently sent to all members.

Peter Parker presented the Treasurer's report (appended). It was approved. He also reported on attempts to secure tax exempt status from IRS. He expects this to be done by Sept. 1.

The Steering Committee's recommendation for reimbursement of committee travel expenses was approved.

Discussion of future meeting sites resulted in the following action:

Fall 1978 (Oct. 20-21) Lord Baltimore Hotel, Baltimore. The Local Arrangements and Program Committee co-chairwomen are Adele Newburger and Pat Vanorny. Spring 1979. Norfolk, Va. (a close vote between it and Wilmington).

Fall 1979. Albany, NY in a vote against Newark, NJ. It was voted unanimously to hold a joint meeting with the New England Archivists in Albany, depending on their expected approval.

After tabling and defeating motions regarding a suggested Spring 1980 meeting in Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, or Wilmington, it was moved and passed that an ad hoc committee be established to consider the whole problem of the selection of future meeting sites.

By motion and a vote the By-laws Revision Committee was discharged with our thanks.

Karen Paul, chairwoman of the Nominating Committee, announced the results of the balloting for new state representatives ('78-'80)

DE Elizabeth Moyne	NY Rev. Lawrence McDonnell
DC Alan Bain	PA Frank Zabrosky
MD Adele Newburger	VA Helen Troy
NJ Don Skemer	WV Ellen Hassig

Thanks by applause was expressed for the service of outgoing State Representatives. Motion for adjournment carried after another hearty round of applause for Arnold Brown and his local arrangements committee and Jim Sweeney and his program committee.

Respectfully submitted
Martha C. Slotten
Secretary

Treasurer's Report
26 April 1978

Cash on hand in Fidelity Bank, Philadelphia 3 Feb 1978

4,607.81

Income:

Memberships, 44 at \$3.00 132.00

Disbursements:

1. Printing	Jan. Newsletter	47.86
	March "	50.80
	MARAC Constitution	48.00
	Membership list	35.00
	Ballot	28.08
	FBG program	58.52
		<hr/> 268.26

2. Postage	Jan. Newsletter	20.96
	March newsletter & membership list	96.00
	Registration mailing	16.95
	Misc. postage	13.00
	Nominating committee	53.40
		<hr/> 200.31

3. Miscellaneous

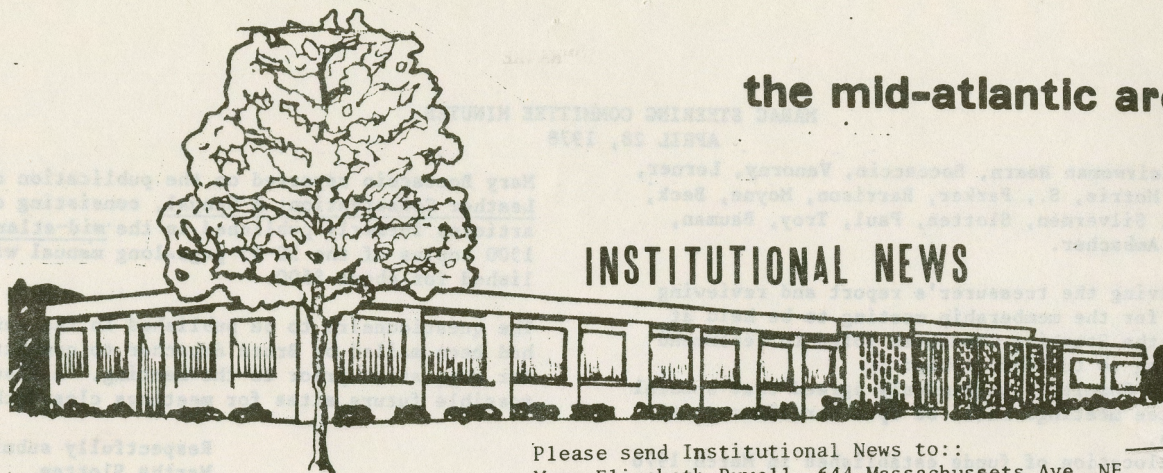
Steering Committee	
Travel	66.77
Telephone	16.14
T-Shirts	157.08
Registration stuffing	28.00
	<hr/> 267.99

Cash on hand 26 April 1978

\$4,003.25

Respectfully submitted,

P. J. Parker
P. J. Parker
Treasurer



INSTITUTIONAL NEWS

Please send Institutional News to::

Mary Elizabeth Ruwell, 644 Massachusetts Ave, NE
Washington, D.C. 20002.

PEOPLE

The April issue's invitation for future bookings of the MARAC cradle has been fruitful. Maygene Daniels (National Archives and Records Service) and her husband Steve will relinquish it this summer to Jan (also NARS) and Norman Danis for their second child. In November it goes to Ann and Bob (NARS) Coren. There is also a tentative reservation by a female MARAC archivist for next May.

KATHERINE MARAS is Assistant Archivist at the INA Corporation Archives in Philadelphia.

DON HARRISON will represent the National Archives at the International Sociological Association this summer in Uppsala, Sweden. Don will chair a working session dealing with four publication projects.

DR. ROBERT M. DRUCTOR and DR. SYLVAN H. KESILMAN have been appointed Assistant Archivists in the Division of Archives and Manuscripts (State Archives) of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Harrisburg, PA 17120.

We welcome the following people as new members:

ANDERSON, Alta M.
408 Pepper Mill Lane
Norfolk VA 23502

AYCOCK, Mrs. B. D.
3401 Brook Rd.
Richmond VA 23227

BALLARD, Larry A.
2430 Kilpatrick Pl.
Dumfries VA 22026

BRUMBERG, G. David
201 Fairmount Ave.
Ithaca NY 14850

BURTON, Dennis A.
R. R. #1
Buffalo Mills PA 15534

CHAPMAN, Cynthia P.
113 Armstrong Dr.
Hampton VA 23668

HOWARD, Joan Lee
1491B N. Van Dorn
Alexandria VA 22304

KING, Sondra S.
158F Alad Drive
Newport News VA 23602

KREDEL, Olivia
3057 S. Buchanan St., B-1
Arlington VA 22206

LIVINGSTON, Mary W.
4130 Lawrence Ave.
Alexandria VA 22304

MALVAL, Fritz J.
Hampton Institute
Hampton VA 23669

NOBLE, Richard A.
1856 Kalorama Road NW
Washington DC 20009

PARHAM, Byron A.
12713 Greenhall Dr.
Woodbridge VA 22192

PRICE, Sam W.
315R Parker Road
Danville VA 24541

SAHLI, Nancy
NHPRC National Archives
Washington DC 20408

STRICKLAND, Esther C.
118 South St.
Harrisburg PA 17101

WILLIAMS, Susan L.
5066 DeQuincy Drive
Fairfax VA 22032

Pohlig Bros., Inc.
H. Winstead Jones
P.O. Box 8069
Richmond VA 23223

Thomas A. Bowden
900 Kirkwood Hwy., N-8
Newark DE 19711

Phyllis Barr
Trinity Parish, 21st. Fl.
74 Trinity Place
New York NY 10006

John L. Kolp
295 Carroll St.
Brooklyn NY 11231

Ann A. Ferrante
2116 N. Patrick Henry Dr.
Arlington VA 22205

Robert M. Dructor
5304 D. Manayunk Rd.
Harrisburg PA 17109

Thomas L. Gravell
305 Mansion Road
Wilmington DE 19804

James C. Staubach
7608 DeVries Dr.
Lorton VA 22079

Also, the following people are MARAC members who joined before May (some long before like Carolyn and Terry!), but who are not listed in the Directory:

John W. Aungst, Jr.
226 Main St.
Landisville PA 17538

Dr. A. Michal McMahon
Franklin Institute
20th & Parkway
Philadelphia PA 19103

W. Bernard Carlson
Franklin Institute
20th & Parkway
Philadelphia PA 19103

Terry A. McNealy
P.O. Box 527
Doylestown PA 18901

Aileen I. Hogan
32 Village Dr.
Somer's Point NJ 08244

Regina Kampf
Franklin Institute
20th & Parkway
Philadelphia PA 19103

Kathy Maras
INA Archives
1600 Arch St.
Philadelphia PA 19101

Arline Schneider
51 West 69th St. #4D
New York NY 10023

Carolyn H. Sung
6005 Dellwood Pl.
Bethesda MD 20034

PROJECTS AND EVENTS

The Leadership Conference of Women Religious, an association of presidents or superiors of Catholic women's religious communities, has been sponsoring basic archival training programs for orders of sisters. Four sessions have been held, including one in New York, and two more are planned.

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission announces the micropublication of the Records of Pennsylvania's Revolutionary Governments, 1775-1790, which reproduces Record Group 27 at the Division of Archives and Manuscripts (State Archives). Sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities, and edited by Roland M. Baumann, it consists of 54 rolls of microfilm and an accompanying guide.

The Revolutionary War period records include some sixty thousand pages of minutes, accounts, correspondence and other records of interest to researchers of political, military, social and economic history and to those seeking information about the administrative history of Pennsylvania's committee governments and Supreme Executive Council.

The 54 roll publication is divided into four sections: (1) the Manuscript Minutes (fair copy and rough copy) of the Committee of Safety, Council of Safety, /Second/ Council of Safety, and Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania, referred to as the Revolutionary Record (9 rolls); (2) the Executive Correspondence of the above Councils, 1775-1790 (16 rolls); (3) records (in twelve series arranged alphabetically) relating to the executive activities of Pennsylvania's Revolutionary Governments (21 rolls); and (4) those volumes of the first edition (1853-1860), corresponding years, of the published Minutes and Executive Correspondence of the Committee and/or Council Governments known respectively as the binder's titles Colonial Records and as the Pennsylvania Archives, First Series (7 rolls).

The microfilms may be ordered directly from the Division of Archives and Manuscripts, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Box 1026, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120. The price per reel is \$15; the set of fifty-four rolls costs \$810. The 200-page guide (paperback is included in the price of the set, or it may be ordered separately for \$7 (hardback) and \$5 (paperback).

The intern program of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission is designed for upper level undergraduate or graduate students or others with academic backgrounds in American history, American studies or archives administration. Volunteers will work with one of two Commission staffs - the staff now preparing a computer-assisted guide to archives and manuscripts in the United States and the Commission's research staff at the National Archives and the Library of Congress. Please write to the following individuals for information regarding the respective intern programs:

Dr. Nancy Sahli, Coordinator
Guide Project
NHPRC
National Archives & Records Service
Washington, D.C. 20408

Ms. Mary A. Guinta, Archivist
Research Staff
NHPRC
National Archives and Records Service
Washington, D.C. 20408

The Winterthur Estate Archives contains over 10,000 blueprints that proved very useful to Joseph Hammond who is investigating room installations at Winterthur. Among other things, he documented the free-standing staircase in the Museum and found that, although original stairs were transported from a North Carolina house, a totally new staircase was built.

In 1977, the National Archives and Records Service reported responding to 1.7 million reference requests nationwide, made in person, by mail, or over the telephone.

The Library of Congress is opposing efforts to move one of its two manuscripts of the Gettysburg Address (there are five known manuscripts) to the national battlefield park at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Sen. Richard Schweiker (R-Pa.) told Daniel J. Boorstin, Librarian of Congress, it seemed "a waste" to have two copies at LC and none at the battlefield. Boorstin contended that LC preservation experts believe continuous display of a manuscript is harmful and could cause "measurable and irreversible damage."

STATE HISTORICAL RECORDS ADVISORY
BOARD APPOINTMENTS DUE

Appointments of some current members of the Historical Records Advisory Board expire in Pennsylvania in August 1978 and in Maryland in December 1978. State Board members help establish priorities, evaluate records grant proposals, make recommendation to the NHPRC, and engage in other activities relating to historical records programs in their state.

MARAC members interested in the selection of Board members should contact:

William J. Wewer
Executive Director
Pennsylvania Historical and
Museum Commission
Box 1026
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
17120

or

Edward Papenfuss
State Archivist
Maryland Hall of Records
Box 828
Annapolis, Maryland
21404

FIRE TESTS ON MOVABLE SHELVING

The National Archives recently conducted three fire tests on movable carriage compact shelving. By eliminating multiple aisles, the shelving can increase storage capacity by up to 50 percent.

The Factory Mutual Research Corp., West Gloucester, R.I., conducted the tests. In two, paper records stored in archives boxes, were ignited. Heat from the fire set off enough sprinklers to contain the fire. In the third test, with paper records, books, and magnetic computer tapes, heat remained trapped within the movable carriages and not enough sprinklers were activated to contain the fire. When the test was halted most records were salvagable.

BOOK REVIEWS

Well, there may be a best-seller about an archives! Beggars and Choosers by Laura Kalpakian is set in a university archives and, according to the review in the WASHINGTON POST, is fast-paced and very amusing. The novel opens with a "hilarious" scene at the university library on the day various manuscripts and memorabilia arrive from a third-rate poet. To everyone's surprise (but probably not yours), the widow has sent everything that remained in her husband's apartment: towels stolen from motels, moldy shoes and dirty clothes, a burned-out hot-plate, plus the assorted publications from the BarRoom Brawl Press, a quasi-underground publisher of beat poetry, and other papers. The protagonist is a nondescript, pedantic graduate student who catalogues the papers and finds evidence that incriminates a tyrannical chairman of the English department. The book costs \$9.95, but may be worth it..

Donald F. Johnston, Copyright Handbook (R.R. Bowker, New York: 1978), 309 pages. \$14.95.

This work gives practical, direct information on the new copyright law. The introductory chapter discusses the main features of the new law, copyright procedures, and user rights. Subsequent chapters cover "Copyrightable Subject Matter," compliance procedures, copyright ownership and transfer, and five areas of control belonging to the copyright owner. There are also chapters dealing with the much-debated Fair Use (Section 107) and Library Reproductions (Section 108). The appendices include the full text of the law and specimen copyright application forms.

Archival Management, Forms for the Eighties. (Pullman, Washington: Pyramidion Press, 1978) 16 pages, \$3.00.

This first edition of Archival Management, Forms for the Eighties, is a pamphlet for private collections rather than your office. The Preface states: "If they give hope in these trying times, they will have achieved their purpose."

The pamphlet is a selection of forms for unusual purposes. The first is a gift return form for reasons of lack of storage space, processing staff, and either little or no monetary value. A deaccession form includes such steps as "write NUCMC requesting removal of collection entry" and "with black felt-tip pen cross out entry in published guide." The research form is a response to mail requests, thusly:

... We are sorry to inform you

- () We have no material on this topic
- () This material is unavailable for research use
Because:
 - () We do not have the staff nor the facilities to look for it.
 - () We will not be open anytime in the near future.
 - () This topic is uninteresting.
 - () Your letter is annoying.

Archival Management is probably a limited edition. It consists of 16 white text pages and an outside cover of ivory, slightly heavier than the text stock. The cover carries the press logo, a circle of pyramids at odds.

Reviewed by Mary Boccaccio

DELAWARE HISTORICAL RECORDS PLAN

- Elizabeth Moyne

As Delaware's representative to the Steering Committee, I attended a public meeting of our Historical Records Advisory Board which discussed a draft of Delaware's proposed state records plan. The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) has asked each local board to propose a plan defining its historic records problems and suggesting possible solutions. Such plans are intended to help the Boards establish their priorities and communicate them to institutions whose grant applications they will review and also to the NHPRC which makes the final grant awards.

The state plans are of great interest to archivists and manuscript curators, but it is difficult for the state boards to insure that they have adequate input from us. In Delaware I was able to make copies of the plan available to some of our members who had not seen it and to make suggestions at the meeting on their behalf. As MARAC's Delaware representative, I was particularly interested in the comprehensiveness of the plan, not only that it covered all geographic areas of the state, but also all the various types of collections and institutions.

REGIONAL CONSERVATION
CENTER ESTABLISHED

The Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts has been incorporated in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation. The Center will concentrate its efforts in the area of the conservation of art and historic artifacts on paper, including manuscripts, expanding into the area of photographs and archival materials as soon as trained personnel and space are available.

Membership in the Center is open to non-profit, tax-exempt institutions. Membership dues will be \$25 per year which will entitle institutions to use the services of the Center which include:

1. Surveying collections to determine needs in the areas of conservation treatment, storage conditions and environmental controls. (A fee of \$100 per day will be asked during the first year.)
2. Seminars for museum personnel on the care of collections and workshops for the training of museum technicians.
3. Long term planning and contracting for a certain amount of conservation treatment to be done each year.
4. Advice from the Center regarding grants available for conservation treatments.

For further information contact:

Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts
612 Spruce Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
19106

I tried to make sure that the Board addressed the concerns of the personnel of our historical records agencies. For example, I suggested that the Board recognize the lack of opportunity for communication and exchange among the staffs at various repositories as one of our state's problems. In response to a proposal that the periodical subscriptions of the different agencies be pooled, I pointed out that the printed research materials at an institution are not merely a convenience for the public, but they are often very necessary for staff use.

As a result of my experience, I would encourage other state reps to attend such Historical Records Advisory Board meetings. While many representatives to state board meetings may find their ability to contribute or comment limited because they are there primarily as a result of their specific institutional affiliation, MARAC representatives have the unique opportunity of giving an overview and presenting ideas based on the experience of individuals who are employed at all levels of historic records work. Your input is needed!

The Chairman of the Delaware Historical Records Advisory Board is Mr. Lawrence C. Henry, Director, Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, Hall of Records, Dover Delaware, 19901.

CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF
THE CONSUMER MOVEMENT

The Center for the Study of the Consumer Movement, funded by grants from NEH, the Rockefeller Foundation, Governor Averell Harriman, the Consumer Union, and other individuals, was established to locate, evaluate, and preserve materials relating to the consumer movement. Taped interviews, collected by the Center, will supplement present documentation. The Center will also assist scholars in using primary source materials and encourage historical studies based on such materials.

The Center's collection includes personal papers, Consumer Union records, books, periodicals, oral history interviews, and films relating to the consumer movement and its important personalities over the last four decades. The Center is located at CU's Mt. Vernon headquarters.

The Center is interested in information on the locations of materials relating to the consumer movement which have already been given to other repositories and in the preservation of endangered records. Information and requests for the Center's free Newsletter should be sent to:

Sybil Shainwald
Director
Center for the Study of the
Consumer Movement
Consumers Union
256 Washington Street
Mount Vernon, New York
10550

BALTIMORE IN THE FALL

LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS REPORT

The Fall Conference, being held in Baltimore on October 20 and 21 promises to be a true "Archival" experience. The Lord Baltimore Hotel will be the center of activity, located in the midsts of Baltimore's renewed downtown area - but possessing the grace and charm of the old city. Rooms, menus, exhibits, tours, and many extras are being prepared by the Local Arrangements Committee: Mary Donaldson, Marlene Hart, Julie Morgan, Cynthia Requardt, and Gerry Watkins - chaired by Adele Newburger.

The serene atmosphere within the newly restored Lord Baltimore Hotel promises to be the perfect setting for the intellectual give and take that flourishes at MARAC; while right outside its doors lie the wild, entertaining, alluring, stimulating, fascinating, illuminating, and thoroughly enjoyable city of Baltimore. There are many points of interest within a short walk from the hotel, among which is the inner harbor area where the new

Science Center is located. In addition, the many historic sites, museums, galleries, and libraries are also within easy reach; not to mention the night clubs, brothels, bars, peep shows, etc. As a special treat, the MARAC members will have the unique pleasure of attending our traditional Friday evening reception at one of the great and rare libraries of the world.

Baltimore is accessible by train, bus, airplane, automobile, etc. and details on these finer points of the meeting will be circulated at a later date. Plan now to attend the Fall meeting on October 20 and 21, for a really interesting and entertaining time.

- Gerry Watkins

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

The Program Committee for the fall meeting in Baltimore met June first in Annapolis, Maryland, to prepare a program. The following committee members were present: Pat Vanorny (Chairperson), Bruce Ambacher, Roland Bauman, Richard Cox, William Heimdahl, Robert Korn, Elizabeth Moyne, and Peter Silverman.

Four sessions are planned for each time period. The program tentatively includes pre-enrolled workshops in manuscript repair and bookbinding; how-to sessions on the identification of facsimiles (by MARAC's own Leonard Rapport), monetary appraisal of manuscripts, information retrieval, conducting a records survey, beginning an archives, and reporting to NUCMC; sessions dealing with

two pertinent legal issues - copyright and access; and sessions on records management, local records, and managing an archives within a larger institution. There will be an orientation session for new and prospective members.

The Program Committee also planned three discussion-rap sessions to facilitate the re-evaluation of MARAC which is underway. The first session will include the results of the questionnaire included in this issue as one aspect of a discussion of where MARAC is and what directions it should be taking. A second session will focus on "Regional Associations: Other Perspectives." The final discussion, on Saturday morning, will be "MARAC Looks Ahead."

- Bruce Ambacher

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Morris Room
Dickinson College Library
Carlisle, PA 17013

Non-Profit Org.

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Paid

Carlisle, Pa.
17013

Permit 173

Mary Boccaccio
McKeldin Library
University of Maryland
College Park MD 20742